

Nixon (ib)
**THE
WARRES
OF
SWETHLAND.**

**WITH
THE GROVND AND**

Originall of the said VVarres, begun and continued betwixt SIGISMOND King of Poland,
and Duke CHARLES his Vnkle, lately
Crowned King of *Swethland*.

* * *

As also the State and condition of that
Kingdome, as it standeth to
this day.



L O N D O N,

Printed for Nathaniel Butter, dwelling in Pauls Church-
yard by Saint *Austins* Gate.

1 6 0 2.

THE
VARRIES



OF
AND

OF
OF

OF
OF
OF



TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE AND

Most Noble minded loue of

Learning PHILIP, Earle
of Mongomerie.



Vch (Right Honourable) as haue purposed to please *Hector*, haue still presented him, with Horse and Armour, because his chiefest delight was in Martiall Discipline, and such oblations best fitted his humour. For by this, and the like presidents is noted, how all haue sought in their presents to keepe a *Decorum*: Hauing therefore composed this little Treatise that concernes the designs of two Kingdoms: I haue thought good (aduenturing the Pardon of your Lordships discretion) to passe the same vnder your Honourable Name, as well for that your Experience is already

THE EPISTLE

knowne to be sufficiently instructed in the affaires of our owne Countrey: Being descended of most Honourable Parents, educated in the most liberal Sciences, and managed in one of the most Royall and famous Courts of Europe. As also for that the custome of Honorable dispositions, hath alwayes (next after that) labored the knowledge and insight of forraine Estates and cōditions. That they may not only deserue well of their owne Countrey, by this their industrie, but also spread their owne fame, as farre as their Countrey is knowne.

Your owne worth is the principall motive that emboldens me to shroude it vnder your Patronage, as one that is a fautor and fauourer of vertuous Actions, and whose Honourable loues growne from the generall applause of the Common-wealth for your high desert, may keepe it from the malice of bitter tongues.

Commaunded thus with this consideration, I presume to present my Booke vnto your Lordship: And humbly intreate, your Honour will bee pleased to vouch of my Labors and fauour a Schollers penne with

D E D I C A T O R I E.

with your gracious acceptation, who answers in affection, what hee wants in eloquence. So shall I rest devoted vnto you, and bestow my future Studies to effect matter of better deserving, Ever remaining

* * *

Your Honours most humble

affectionate.

A N T H. N I X O N.

D E D I C A T O R I E.

With your gracious acceptance, who are
twice in affection, what betwixt in de-
ference. So shall I be devoted unto you,
and bestow my future studies to be.

test m. 66 AM 10

ning. Further remaining

affectionate

AM 10. 66. 10



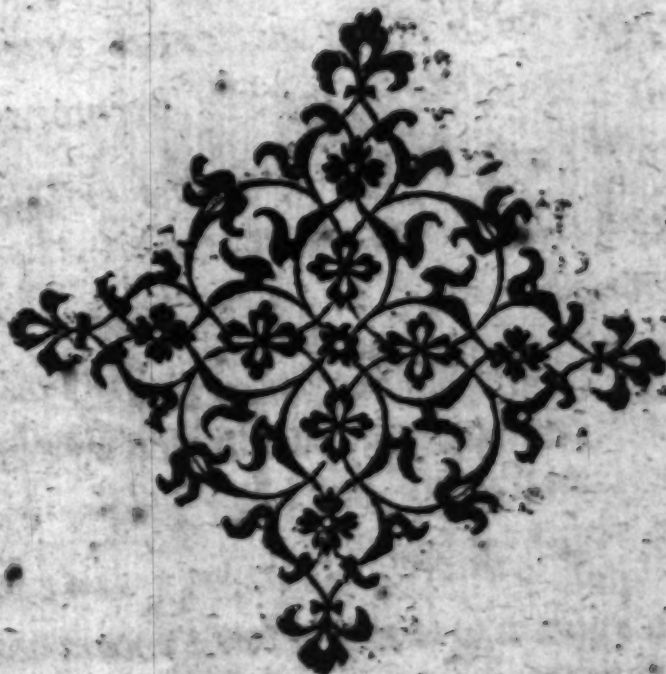
The true Copie of a Letter Certificatorie, written in commendation of Captaine King of Ratcliffe, M. VVilliam Bardwell and Alexander Child of Redriffe, Masters of three Shippes of London, for their memorable seruice against the Swethens, being thereto compelled in Summer last, 1608.

I Ohannes Carolus Chodkiewich Earle of Seckloro Bychor, and of Milra, Captaine of Samogitia and Porpatie, Generall Commissioner of Lyffeland, and chiefe Generall of the Army of the great Dukedome of Lytauwe. To all and singular, to whome it may appertaine, or that shall reade these Presents, I doe let to weet, that whereas VVilliam Bardwell, VVilliam King, and Alexander Childe English Gentlemen, came
(a) with

with three Shippes at Riga, when the Earle of
Mansfelde Generall of the Army of Duke
Charles Suderman, periniuriously breaking
the Truce, made warre in Lyffeland, I helde
them there, and employed them in the ser-
uice of Warre for the most excellent King of Po-
land, my most gracions Lord, and they vnder-
tooke to defend the Dunn, wherein they did be-
haue themselves very faithfully, manfully and
valiantly, so that the said Earle of Mansfield
was often by them driuen backe againe to his
great losse and shame, and likewise hee was of-
ten assaulted by them, so that hee lost not onely
his strength of men and his courage, but also
lost some Shippes with many men and goods,
which the saide Englishmen with a memorable
courage, and to the notable glory of the English
Nation, did set on fire and burne. And there-
fore I haue thought good to grant vnto them
this Testimoniall, to the end that they may haue
great thanks for their deserts, purchased by their
good renowne and name; and that others may
see, that as fame & immortality belongeth chief-
ly to noble minds, so also it is gotten by vertuous
and valiant deedes: Written in the Campe at
the

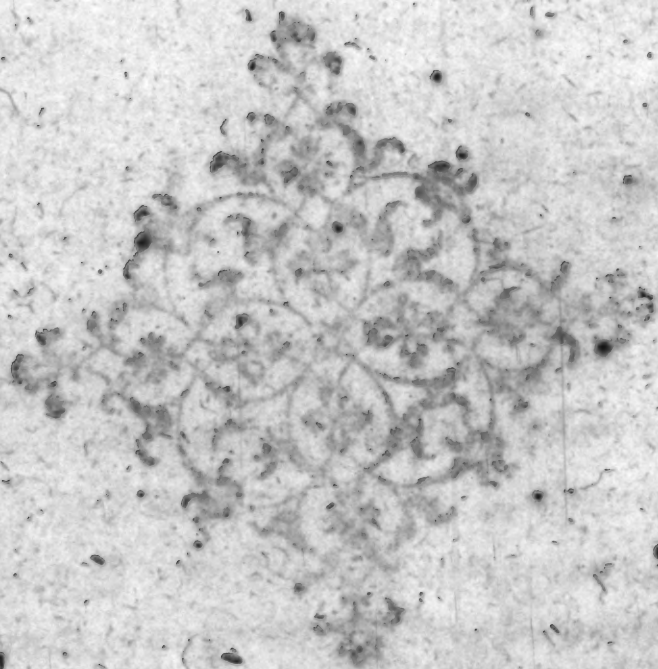
the new Mill in Lyffeland the seauenteenth
of Nouember, Anno Domini 1608. And
is subscribed by Iohannes Carolus Chod-
kiewicke, manu propria, and sealed
with a Seale in Redde waxe,
Printed thereupon,

Ita testatur Carolus Demetrins,
Notarius Publicus.



the new Mill in Wythland the Tennant
of Glenelg, Anno Domini 1608. And
is subscribed by Johannes Carolus Chof.
Kierwicks, and his propertys
with a Seal in Redd Wax.
The 69 AM Oly.

In testam. Carolus Tennant
Notarius Publicus





THE ORIGINAL GROUND OF

The present VVarres
of Swethen.

CHAP. I.

The daungerous plots laid against *Gustovus* in the life time of his Father: His flight to *Lubeck* in Germanie in the habite of a slaue, His strange entertainment there, &c.



His is like a bryefe Cronicle, that comprehends in it much matter in few lines, and various businesse in little circumstance. It presents to your reading the designs, and affaires of a spacious kingdome, and reacheth to the beginning of many yeeres past. Understand therefore

that the Countrey of Swethen, before it was aduanc'd to the dignitie of a kingdome, by the allowance of the Empire, and generall consent of their owne State, was a long time gouerned by the authority of foure Dukes, bearing the Titles of the foure Provinces, into which the Countrey is deuided. The first is the Dukedome of Doland, hauing in it
a Regall

The VVarres

a Regall Castle, called Vpsale, where the kings of Swethland be Crowned and buried. The second is the Dukedome of Newland, where the Castle of Newkeeping stands. The third is the Dukedome of Finland, where the Dukes seat is called, Oua Castle. The fourth is Warmland, where stands the Castle of Wasten vpon the Meditterrenian Sea; being the strength, and Bulwarke of the kingdom. The Countrey being (as I say) a long time ruled by these foure Dukes, in the kind of an Aristocratie, that is, The gouernment of the Nobilitie, as was the gouernment of the first, and former Romane Peeres and Consuls: was in the end of the Raigne of Henrie 7. King of England, made a Monarchie or kingly gouernment.

The first Monarke or King hereof, was called Gismond, whose Sonne, named Gustovus succeeded his Father in the Kingdom. This Gustovus (being in the life time of his Father, Duke of Doland) was a Prince very absolute, both in the perfections of his body, and his mind, excellently composed in the one, and honorably disposed in the other. Of an indifferent stature, neither too high, nor too low. His complexion sanguine, his haire bright, his countenance cheerefull, and pleasant to looke vpon, full of grace, and Majesty. In warre stout, and industrious, in Counsell wise, and full of respect, in the Court he carried such a Port and State, as attracted all eyes to gaze vpon him. In private places full of affabilitie and delightful recreation: To conclude, it seemed that Nature and vertue had both toynd together to frame in him the most absolute pattern of a Prince in his time. But as no excellency whatsoeuer is without malignant opposites, so this Prince found that olde saying to be true, Virtutis comes invidia, plerunq; bonos insectatur. For the Dukes of the other Three Prouinces, being ioynd with him in Commission (for you must vnderstand, that the foure Dukes did still retaine their titles, and authoritie vnder the King, as the Senate of Rome did theirs vnder the Soueraintie of Caesar, though it were subordinate.) The o-
ther

of Swethland.

ther three (I say) envying that greatnesse, lone, and opinion;
which his vertues, as well as the Nobilitie of his blood had
got him, sought by many deuides to betray him, whom no
honourable mind, but would haue defended, and to this end,
they bent all their courses: A plot (no doubt) full of honour and
regard vnto the State, the project whereof was either the
murder, or disinheritance of so lawfull a Prince; Falshood
and Enuie the accusers, Suggestion and Subornation the
informers. Thus was the plot laid, The Quene (being
mother in law to Gustovus, and hauing a Sonne by the
King, and borne since the kingdome was erected) as farre as
she durst (so she yet feared the greatnesse of Gustovus) did
many times buze matters of iealousie and suspicion into the
Kings eares, of his sonnes carriage of himself in the kingdom,
which at first he did not either beleue, or dissemble. The three
Dukes knowing the Quenes mind towards the Prince,
added fuell to her fire, alleging that she should neuer finde a
sure establisment for her selfe and her sonne in the kingdome,
if Gustovus were not made away. The heart, that before
began to burne with this desire, was now more incensed, ha-
uing those three Noblemen, the principall Counsellours of
State in the kingdome, to further her intendments. The
Quene being thoroughly instructed by the Lords, takes the
advantage of time, in her complaint to the King, Tels him
that his sonne aspired, and would shortly aspire against him,
that he affected popularitie, receiued like Absolom his sub-
leas Petitions, not in lone, but Ambition: That he kept a
Court, and more greater then the King, and that all his ani-
ons did more fauour of Soueraigntie, then subiection. The
Lords, they second the Quene in her vniuersall information,
alledge matters probable to confirme it, The King be-
leues, and in the error thereof, hates Truth, embraceth
Treason. Thus all being inverted, Nature rebels in the Fa-
ther, but Loyaltie remaines in the Sonne. The plot was
hereupon laid for his apprehension, Gustovus being then at
Court, who noting a strange alteration in his Fathers

The VVarres

countenance towards him, began to suspect the drift of the Queene, upon the distrust of the Noblemen about her: Himselfe being almost abandoned, deuisseth with himselfe how to auoid the danger. A Gentleman of the Kings, comes secretly to Gystovus, and tels him that the plot was laid that night, for his Attainder. The Prince being amazed at the suddaine immixence of such a perill, posseth presently from the Court with a few of his Retinew, and the next day recouers his Dukedome of Doland, where he meant to stay, till he heard further of the Kings proceedings. His departure was soone made knowne, at which the Queene, and the Lords (though they mist of their purpose) were not much sorry, soe knowing that his suddaine flight from the Court in that manner, would strongly confirme their accusation. The King by them againe is incensed, and messengers sent into Doland, by whom the Prince was Summoned by a certaine day to make his appearance in Vpsale Castle: which the Prince refuseth to doe: affirming by his submissive Letters to the King, that though he knew his cause to be iust, and his heart lopall, no probable suspicion of any murder comenbur from him, either in act, or intent, that yet nevertheless he durst not hazard his life in the heat of the Kings displeasure, soe that he knew his aduersaries were so great in power, and in so gracions account, that it would be an easie matter to haue his Maesties grace, and Nature her selfe peruerterd to his vntimely and vniust destruction: And that the onely cause why he retired himselfe into his owne Countrey, was to stay the time, vntill these mists of his Maesties jealousie and suspicion were blowen away, that the Sunne of his alleagiance might shine cleere, farre from the cloudes of all distrust, or disloyaltie. This answer being returned, but not accepted, the King by the Queenes continuall instigations was more, and more prouokt, insomuch that a great power was suddenly raised to fetch him by violence out of his Dukedome. Which the Prince perceiuing, and being neither able, nor willing to resist his fathers forces, giues way

to

of Swethland.

to necessity, and in the habite of a slave, purposeth secretly to goe into Germanie. And hauing past some dangers in his flight by the Kings pursuers, at last he crossed the seas, and holting on his course for Lubeck in Germany, not many dayes safely arrived there, All this while he kept his disguise, for though he knew that the Lubeckers were heretofore beholding to him, yet he doubted what mincs they would put on in this chaunge of fortune, Remembryng Pompeyes usage in his flight by Ptolomie King of Egypt, and the like of Hanniball by Prusias King of Bithinia.

CHAP. II.

Gustovus is discovered in Lubecke: The Lubeckers take his part, The King his Father dies, He recouers by their meanes the Kingdome of Swethland.

The newes (being arrived in Germany) of *Gustovus* his flight out of Swethland, befoze his comming thither, was diuersly intertainied in Lubeck: Some pittied the state and conditior of the young Prince, that so Noble a Gentleman, so full of hope, and expectation, even in the prime of his youth, should in this vile manner suffer violence: Others spake against him, supposing that his owne naturall Father, and others of his blood, would not in this manner haue proceeded against him, if he had not showane himselfe dangerous vnto the State, as the mindes of the people are in this case diuersly distracted. The Prince after his comming to Lubeck staid certaine dayes in a common Inn, not daring to discover himselfe, and to auoid the suspition of a stranger in such common places, found meanes to preferre himselfe vnto a rich Merchant of the Towne (if such a place in the meanenesse of his fortune at that time may be called preferment.) Being there entertained, he contented himselfe to doe any bodily la-

The Warres

hour in the house, striving to sulte his minde vnto his misery, yet could hee not so well counterfeite this part of his sinister fortune, but that the Merchant did soone suppose him to be a better man, then hee seemed to bee, and perhaps the man hee was. So hard a thing it is for Nature to learne to forget her custome. Staying some few moneths in the Merchants house, hee heard of a Gasant sent from the king to the State of Lubeck, being supposed hee would bend his course thither. The tenor of the Gasants message, was to deliuer to the Lubeckers that the kings desire was, that either they should not entertaine him at al, or els send him backe to Swethland, for that hee was knowen and proclaimed to bee an enemye. But they being at that time ignorant of the Princes abiding, answered for the time to those things, that might stand with the Kings pleasure. The Gasant being dispatcht, Gustovus lived in a continuall feare of being discovered, as well for that many great men in the Towne had before seene him in Swethland, and might then remember him: As also for that his Master would many times pze into his countenance, and behauiour, and vtter strange words, and shew strange passions, even in his pzesence, sometimes repeating the name of Gustovus.

The Prince holding thus a Wolfe by the eares, in doubt whether to stay or goe, (in both which he found danger) was wondrously perplexed: Sometimes he thought to discouer himselfe, opposing his mind against the worst of fortune, that if the Towne did betray him, his blood should be shed in Innocence, and he be rid of that torment: wherin his mind was diuersly distracted betwixt Hope, and Feare, and Feare the predominant: but at last resolving with himselfe to stay, hee still framed his mind vnto his businesse. One day cleauing of wood, in the strapping of his bodie, a button that held the flappe of his Jerken, brake, and therewithall a little Chaine of gold, whereon did hang a Jewell of inestimable pze, fell from his necke: Which a maid seruant in the house (being by) perceiuing, was desirous to see it: but hee suddainely

that

of Swethland.

snatching it vp, told her that it was a thing of no worth, but
giuen him by a friend of his, in the remembrance of her. The
maide dissembled her opinion for the present, but soone after
told it to her master. The Merchant vpon this accident, con-
firmes his former suspicion, and hauing now matter more re-
lative then before, enjoined the State of Lubeck with this
circumstance. The Burgomasters of the Towne, sitting
then in Counsell, sent for the stranger by a guard, to come be-
fore them, How the Message was entertained by the
Prince, let them iudge that haue undergone the like ad-
venture. There was no denial, nor possibility of escape, O-
bey he must, And it is a hard thing when Princes must obey.
Being brought before the Magistrates, it was demanded
of whence he was: he answered, of Swethen. They askt
him of what degree: He told them, as meane in birth as in
fortune: what moued you (quoth they) to forsake your
Countrey: The Prince replied, my vnkind blage there. A
principall Senator of the Towne looking all this while
stedfastly vpon his countenance, perceined that it was Gu-
stovus, and whispering the rest in the eare, assured them,
that it was the Prince. The matter was before concluded
what they meant to doe, Whereupon this great Citizen be-
gan to speake in this manner. Your birth (quoth hee) is
farre better then your fortune, wherein you dissembled, but
your fortune beares the blame, your first and last answer is
true, for we know that you are of Swethland, and your
name is Prince Gustovus, and the vnkind blage of your
Countrey hath bzaken you from thence: what we meane to
doe, you shall vnderstand shortly. In the meane time repose
your selfe securely and hopefully in the rulers house. The
Prince acknowledged himselfe, and thankt them for these
signes of their good will. And if you shall find (quoth he) my
protection, or defence to prooue dangerous vnto your State,
Let my life rid you from that feare: I shall be well con-
sent, so I may free you from danger, to be your Sacrifice;
Whereupon they all embraced him, with the teares stan-

The VVarres

ding in their eyes, every one honouring him, and putting him in great hope and comfort, They caused him presently to be invested with royall ornaments, and in all honourable and loving manner, conveyed him that night to the rulers house. The Prince stayed as prisoner, but honourably attended about two yeeres in Lubeck. During which time, the king his father sent divers Gasants with faire words, and large promises to have him delivered, but it would never be granted; Howbeit they promised that they would keepe him safe from attempting any innovation. The Prince during his stay there would often visite his old master, whom he would alwayes call his kind master, affirming that if his discovery had not bene made known, he could as contentedly have lived a poore servant in his house, as he did then a princely prisoner in the Towne: The Merchant would many times tell him, he had much adoe, to keepe himselfe, from the sinne of pride, for that it was his fortune, to be master of such a servant.

Within two yeeres after, the king his father died, and the State of the Countrey proclaimed the Ducenes Sonne, King of Swethland. Gustovus had quickly intelligence thereof, as such newes flies ever with the Swallows wings, receives Letters from many Noble men, and other of his friends in the Countrey, wherein he was advised to use all means possible for his return, with assured confidence of their assistance. The Prince shewes the Letters to the Lubeckers, solicits them in his own behalfe for aide, gives them princely promises of their requitall. The Prince returns to Swethen full of hope, and encouragement, His friends meete him in great multitudes with all signes of love and obedience: His enemies are disperst without battaile: some fled, some taken prisoners, the Quene with her sonne conveyed to Upsale Castle, The thre Dukes beheaded, and all the rest pardoned. When all things were established, and the summes of money paid backe to the Lubeckers, Gustovus was shortly after with all sollemnitie Crowned king of Swethland, and not

of Swethland.

not long after was honourably married out of Germanie, His Queene being nobly borne in that Countrey, By whom he had foure sonnes: Prince Erick the eldest, Duke of Doland, Iohn Duke of Finland, Magnus Duke of Warm-land, and Charles the youngest Duke of Estergutland, that now liues and inioyes the Crowne of Swethland.

This Gustovus Reigned peaceably and happily, Laden with many peeres, but with many more Trophies of honours, The care and loue hee bare vnto his subjects was well seene in their reciprocall respect to him. His sonnes brought vp in all princely knowledge, acknowledged faithfully their naturall duties during his life, Though after his death they fell at vnnaturall debate, one with another.

In the last of his peeres he shewed the best of his affections, different from the obseruance taken in other Princes, who after a long continued Soueraignetie, doe much decline from the gentle behaviours of theist beginnings. But at last (as euery thing is vnstable, & each estate, that hath being in this world, holds his vncertaintie) This noble king decreased, at that time, wherein his life was most desired of his subjects: whose loue had bene the like vnto his sonnes, had it not bene crost by the nature of the tumultuous times that followed: The dead corps being now the sadde remnant of a king, was with all solemnitie conuayed and enterr'd in Upsale Castle: His friends following it with all tokens of sorrow, calling him the propper and protector of Religion, the defender and preseruer of his Countrey, the honour and glory of the Swethen Nation. His fame went before him, dilating his Noble acts, and princely vertues, that (not buried in the graue with him) returned backe, passing through the world, and still sounding forth the praises of Gustovus, whose name shall neuer die, so long as the memorie of the Swethen State indures.

Erick

The VVarres

C H A P. III.

Erick is crowned King of Swethland, after the death and Funerall of his Father : A marriage is plotted with *Elizabeth* Queene of England, That failing another is tendered to the daughter of the King of Poland, His brother Duke *Iohn* conspires against him.



After the death of Gustovus, Erick his eldest sonne is with all generall applause, and the Countries ceremonie, crowned king of Swethland about the yeere of our Lord 1559. and in the same yeere an ouerture of marriage was made with Elizabeth Queene of England in the beginning of her raigne. Duke Iohn his brother sent Ambassadour (princely appointed) in this negotiation, who safely arriving in England with his whole fleete, was honourably intertained. Notobest the matter of his Embassage, was rather flattered, then graunted, rather fairely countenanced, then embraced, For some noble men at that time, great in their places, either in their owne respects, or the honour of the Queene, stood against it, But the Queene her selfe did fairely intreate the Prince, royally feasted him, gave him many princely gifts, Told him in conclusion, that she took the Tenor of his Embassage in very gracious manner : Sent kind commendations to the king his Brother, with this hopefull message, that if it pleased him to take the paines to come into England, she would take such order for his entertainment, that hee should haue no iust cause to returne discontent. For (saith she) I haue made this vow, neuer to contract my selfe to any, whom I haue not first seene. The Duke thus furnisht with this answer, takes his leaue, imbarques

of Swethland.

barkes himfelfe, boyleth layle, arrives in Swethland, and deliuer's to the longing languishing King this hopesfull doubtfull answer, of the Quene. The young King embraceth this newes, and his brother for them, flatters his fancie, kisseth the Quenes picture, beguiles imagination, buildes Castles in the ayre, rigges his Flēte at Sea, exhausteth his Treasurē, makes himfelfe poore to enrich his hope, which proued indeed, farre above his fortune. The Winter following was spent in this preparation for England: During which time Frederik then king of Denmarke, a Wise and polittike Prince stood much against this Alliance with England, foreseeing the danger that might rebound to him in his neighbours marriage, with so potent a Princess: sendeth Ambassadors to King Erick, shewing both the inconuenience that would happen by marriage in a Countrey so farre remote, as also the dangers that were like to ensue, in toyning with a Quene, more strong then himfelfe. But the king gave a deafe eare to this Embassage, Continuing his preparations still for England: Some say, that in that Winter riding betwene Upsale, and Wasten Castle, a Maide of excellent beautie, but obscure parentage, whose name was Gondole coming amongst others to behold the king, who by chance, casting his eyes vpon her, was so sodainly enamored in her beautie, that that payson which he drew then into his heart by his eyes, did so corrupt the whole body of his affaires, that at last he losse both his life, and kingdome: but others say it was the winter after. But to returne to our voyage for England, The kings fleet being royally rigd, and all thinges ready for so great a busines; the king took shipping about the beginning of May, leaving Duke Iohn his brother Vicegerent in his place, and sayling along the Coasts of Norway, Report first that Frederick king of Denmarke had procured certayne Witches in that Countrey to drowne, or dispearse the fleet of king Erick, and by their spelles, and deuillish incantations to Confound this intended voyage, whether this be true or no, I know not,

The VVarres

but this is certaine, that the king being vpon the coast of Norway, such a strange foggy, thicknes did so cloath the ayre that the kings flete had some losse sight of one another: And then folloved such horrible thunders, and vnhheard of Tempests, that it seemed heauen and earth had met together in the disturbance of this intendment. The king being at his wits end long before hee came to his waies end was so perplexed in his thoughtes, that he knew not what to do, either to goe forward or to returne: The sight of y^e Eye was so taken away by the the thicknes of Aire, the benefit of the Eare was confounded by the noyse of the thunder, the waters rose so high as if they meant to kisse the Cloudes: Noe light but what the flashes of lightning made which amased them all, the raine fell so thicke that they could scarce keepe the Hatches, the maister calles to the Boatson, and is not heard, the Sternes-man cryes to the Maister, and is not regarded. Three daies togeather, continued these three nightes of darknes, wherein was scene neither sunne Moone, nor starre: the kings flete was diuersly dispeared, some into the coast of Denmarke others back againe into Swerland, the king himselfe vpon the Coast of Norway lookes vnderly howe for his buriall in the Sea. At last entering into cogitation with himselfe, he thought that God had suffered his pride to be thus punisht, for that he vndertook a Passage with such a Quene, whose fame and glozy was so great, as well from her State, and gouernment, as for the riches and strength of her Crowne, and kingdome: that entering into consideration of it, he held himselfe much vnworthy of such a fortune. Vpon this, the king rashly vowes that if it would please God to deliuer him from that daunger, he would giue ouer his ouer high attempt, returne into his Countrey and learne hereafter to suite his desires to his estate. At last these stormes haue end, the king returnes according to his vow, shortly after arrives in Swethland, And thus fayled this Negotiation for England.

The king some after his landing beginnes (say some) re-
newes

of Swethland.

newes (say others) his loue to his faire Gondole: that afterward proved as fatall to him, as Cleopatraes loue to Anthony: His eyes were seldome off either her person or her picture: His minde mused on nothing but the pleasures of her body, his tongue speakes of nothing but her delights, and praises; all publicke affaires are abandoned, the pallaces are like a wilderness desolate, the Court is kept where Gondole hath her byding; reason, and regard of gouernment, are now banished, pleasure and sensuallitie made his Counsellors of State. The Noble men would oftentimes aduise him, but all in vaine, his brother Duke Iohn did still smooth the Kings humors, not as being enamoured of his delights, but as from hence drawing a subject that happily hereafter might serue his turne, in case the Nobility (as they beganne a little) should afterwards wholly withdrow their affections from him. Thus whilst the king follows his pleasures Duke Iohn pursues his purposes, would oftentimes complaine to certaine of the Rixen Roade, which we call The Blood Royall, of his brothers effeminate and unkingly gouernement, but especially to Duke Charles his youngest brother, yet no further engaging himselfe to danger then he knew meanes how to wind out againe. Not long after, another Marriage was tendered of the Polands Daughter, which the king Coulozably entertained to satisfie his Nobility, whilst his heart doted vpon his Paramour. Duke Iohn his brother was imployed in this businesse, and it fell out as he desired: For if the cardes were dealt aright, he might happely himselfe marry the Polands daughter. And thus with a false heart taking a faire leaue of the king his brother being furnished with all accomptements fit for such a busines shortly after arriued in the Court of Poland, where after the solemnitie of such entertainements he deliuered his Message with such a Statefull grace both in his speech, countenance and carriage of himselfe (as sure he was a most accomplisht Gentleman) that it wan him great commendations in the kings Court especially with the yong princeesse,

The VVarres

In whose tender heart there was such an inward breach made, as was soon outwardly perceived, for her eyes that conveyed these pretie assaults unto her heart, did soon betray her hidden affections: which the Duke perceiving laies hold upon the occasion, sometimes by rewardes many tongues to speake in his behalfe, loyes with the greatest of the Kings Counsell, and in especiall with one Feinsbecke Duke of Leif-lande. He told them that the condition of his Countries disordered estate, occasioned by the discordant disposition of his brother, moved him rather to looke with a publike, then a private eye: If he ought nature and dutie to his Brother, he ought no lesse unto his Country, and it was his countries cause (to the which he was most bound) that made him inueigh against his brother: Let no man (quoth he) rashly reasssure me, but comparing the State of the kingdome to the condition of the King, let him then iudge whether all is not like to ruine, if prevention be not made, which in the Kings person (quoth he) will neuer be, for that he seemes to be buried in his owne delights, and the breath which he himselfe should drawe, lies not in his owne, but in anothers body. The most and best part of the Nobility being by these, and the like suggestions wonne unto his party, a way was quickly made for the Duke to take for himselfe, which was not long a doing for the heart, that was already so strongly assaulted, was soon framed to yeeld. To see short the young Duke wedded and bedded the princeesse with great honour, and delight, & so easily is the pollicie of a state drawn to obey the necessity of the time: the newes herof is soon brought to Swethland, wherein the wise lookt into the danger of the King, howbeit the King himselfe foresaw no peril: But as a Man wholly devoted to his delights, doth against the aduise of all his friends, quickly after Marrie the said Gondole, whereby he did sodainly runne into such a scandalous hatred of his owne Subiectes, that they euer after held him unworthy of his Crowne and kingdome: Within a yeare after his Marriage

of Swethland.

Marriage he had a Sonne, not long after whose birth Duke John having assured promises from his youngest brother Duke Charles, procures an Army to be lent by the King of Poland, his Father in law, and arriving in the Dukedome of Estergutland, was lovingly entertained of his brother Duke Charles, who joining their forces together, having also the ayde of other Noble Men in the Country, gave battaile to his brother King Erick, who being overcome, and flying to Stock-holand, was there by his two brothers taken, and made away, no man ever knew how. A noble man in the Countrey, brother to Herrerick Gusterson, and deare unto the King was at that time honorably slaine in the defence of his Prince. The Quene had before sent her young Sonne out of the Land, foreseeing the danger that was like to happen. Who now lives as an Exile in the great Duke of Moscovias Court, and the Quene her selfe confined to Seickborrow Castle, where shee yet lives a sad and solitary life. Thus ended the unfortunate Raigne of King Erick, who might long have lived and governed in the Land, had he but subdued his owne affections.

CHAP. III.

King John is crowned king of Swethland: hath a Sonne borne called *Sigismund*: The King of Poland dies: young *Sigismund* is sent for to be King of Poland: Hee staies there certaine yeares till the death of his Father, and is then sent for by his Vncle Duke Charles to receaue the Crowne and kingdome of Swethland.

Duke John having thus by his brothers murder attained unto the Crowne, disposeth with his best Counsell the affaires of the kingdome, disperseth his Army, satisfies his Subjects in the cause of these indirect proceedings, against his brother, and having set all things in order, sendeth for his Quene out of Poland,

The Warres

who with an honorable traine being conducted into Swethland, was there Royally entertained, and shortly after with Duke Iohn her husband, in all princely manner, Crowned King and Quene of Swethland at Vpsale Castle: Many Statutes he repealed which the King his brother had made, being found prejudiciall unto the Country, and others hee enacted, that were held more profitable: To all Sutoys he shewed himselfe very gentle and gracious: And because the treasure of the Kingdome was much exhauste in his expedition into Poland, he was driven to borrow many great Summes of money both there, and of his Friends at home: Hee kept a Princely court, and was very liberall in his rewardes, delighting much in all Partiall exercises. His liberality was equall to that which was so highly commended in a worthy Captaine of Thebes, who when hee had obtained a victoory against the Lacedemonians, took onely of all the spoile but one sword, distributing the rest amongst his Souldiours, saying, Fellowes in Armes this I Challenge because I wrong it out of the hand of mine Enemy. Whatsoever else is yours, as the reward of your travells, for, the Theban Senatours warre for honour, not for treasure. The Mercenary Man that beareth Armes for hier, and for his ordinary Paye, feareth not to venture his life in the face of his Enemy, having but his wages, bath but his due: So that if hope of spoile, and the bounty of his Captaine did not encourage him in his attempts, he would both doubt the danger of his person and scoorne for so little gaine to ranne upon such imminent perills. His liberality towards his associates in Armes, and his experient wisdom and valour in Partiall enterprises made him both honoured feared, and held in worthy estimation. Thus by this and his other vertues Duke Iohn in short time Crept into the hearts of his Subiectes. The first yeare of his raigne the Quene brought him a godly Boy which was Christened by the name of Sigismond, the Emperoz being his Godfather, which Sigismond, is now King of Poland.

About

of Swethland.

About the Tenth yeare of his raigne, King Iohn made an honorable iourney into Russia, upon the breach of a League made betwixt them. From whence he returned victorious. The rest of his raigne was quiet and peaceable: And let a Gode the staine of his brothers death, he was doubtlesse a most excellent Prince and worthy of the Crowne and kingdome; and although there were many times iarres betwixt him, and his brother Duke Charles, yet alwaies the matter was so handled, that they were sone reconcilde againe. By which were cut off all occasions of Ciuill warre. In the twelfth yeare of his raigne his father in law the King of Poland dies, for whose death the Quene his daughter mourne d heavily. The young Prince Sigismond her Sonne was elected King of Poland, and with an honourable conuoy being guarded thither was with all solemnity in all Princely manner Crownte King of Poland: Shortly after Marries honourably into the house of Austria; and in the twelfth yeare of his raigne in Poland, King Iohn his Father dies: whose death being much bewailed of his subjects, he was with appertaining solemnitie buried in the Chappell of the Kings in the Castle of Vpsale. Duke Charles of Estergutland after the death of his brother sends into Poland for his Nephew Sigismond to come to receaue the Crowne of Swethland, Sigismond takes heavily the death of his Father, and deuines befoze hand of the troubles that folloved in that kingdome: Great preparation is made for his iourney into Swethland, and doubting of his vnckles minde & proiectes, carrieth a great power of Poles with him to preuent all daungers. The king arrives safely in Sweathland, is with all honoz and signe of loue receaued by his vnckle Duke Charles, and the rest of the Nobilitie of Swethland, He is honorably conueyed to Vpsale Castle, where hee was louingly receaued of the Quene his Mother, whom he comforteth being a sorrowfull widdow for the death of King Iohn her husband. Shortly after he was crowned K. of Swethland without any disturbance. A Key-day was held

The Warres

held in the castle of Upsale, where all things being establi-
shed, Duke Charles is made vicegerent of the kingdome:
hauing with him saynd in Commission foure Noblemen, of
the Rixen-road whose names were Hergullen Bonner,
Hersten Bonner, his brother, Herrerick Spare, and Har-
tor Belk; These foure Noblemen, being great in the king-
dome but not very great with the Vicegerent, were of pur-
pose saynd by the King in commission with the Duke to
carbe or Controule all over haughty and headstrong at-
tempts, that the Duke might happely Commit by the great-
nesse of his place and power in the absence of the King, who
was then ready to returne to Poland. The Duke perceaues
the drift, but dissembles it. before the Kings departure, order
was set downe by the King with the Duke and the Com-
missioners for the payment of certaine sommes of money,
which King John his Father did owe vnto many Souldi-
ours, that were yet vnpaide since the time of expedition in-
to Russia, and vnto many Merchants of England, Scotland
and other Nations for the prosecuting of that warre. After
all things were thus settled and ordered, the King returnes
to Poland, leauing behinde him that fire that after ward
consumed the peace of the whole Kingdome: for the Noble-
men, the Commissioners being commanded by the King,
(that was ever iealous of his Uncle Charles) to obserue
and enforme his Maiestie of the manner of his government,
did so oppose themselves against him in all his proceedinges,
and especially in the payment of this money, that the Duke
plainely perceived, that this new gouernment was but laide
as a trap to ensnare his life, A Rix-day was holden at Up-
sale, no order Concluded, nor money paid, and much adoe
there was to keepe them from factions, the Commissioners
would haue these sommes paid out of the Subiectes purses,
the Duke out of the Common Treasury: which the com-
missioners refuse, alleaging the Kings want of money, The
Duke writes faithfully, The Lords falsly to the King. To
whom they intimate feare of innovation, and that the Duke
by

of Swethland.

by all likelyhoods aimed at the Crowne, that he had paid parte of the money due to the Souldiours out of the Reuenues of the Dukedome, to draw their affections to him, that he sought to further the State, and wealth of the Commons more then stood with the loyall nature of a Subject, that he kept the Pozie and State of a King rather then a Deputie, and that it was not like he would long yeeld his honours vnto Massalage, whose fortunes in such a minde and State as his might attaine to Soueraignty, if pꝛeuention were not speedily made. The Duke intercepts these letters, and sends them inclosed in his own vnto the King, to whom he writes very humbly, and with all protestations of duty, and allegiance: the King receaues the letters, but beleeueth the Lords and distrusteth the Duke, sendeth secretly to the Commissioners that they should sodainely surprize him, depose him from his gouernement, and to that end he sent his authority: and finally to keepe him prisoner, his wife and children, during life in a castle built of purpose for that stratageme within the dukedome of Linto: Oh that the nature of fortune should be so fickle and vncertaine, neuer singular either in her frownes or fauours, but that commonly in the height of any hope it produceth some crosse accident of vnhappy misfortune.

The Duke notwithstanding hauing intelligence of this plot, beganne to looke about him, hasted into his owne dukedome and raised a great power of men, Some say that if he had but staide one howe longer in Vpsale, the plot had beene effected, and the Duke bitterly vndone. The Lords were in a maze vpon the Dukes departure, knowing that their deuise was discouered, they now perceaued their owne weakenesse to resist the Duke, being in power, place and opinion, and farre aboue them, And though they had the Kings authority, yet was he farre from them, and they neer vnto their danger, they knew not well what course to take, sometimes they purposed to flie to the King, and then they feared the waies were sozelayd. To stay in the Castle of

The VVarres

Vpsale were no safety, it being a place of pleasure, not of defence: whereupon they determined to depart from thence: Three of them vnto the Castle of V Vasten in the Dukes dome of Finland, and Hartourbelk to Calmer Castle. Having thess: Castles deliuered vnto them, they purposed to stay there to vnderstand the Dukes proceedings, and in the meane time dispatcht letters vnto the King of the particulars of these troubles: The Duke (as I sayd before) having raised a great power of men, marcheth speedily towarde the castle of Vpsale, but vnderstanding of the Lords departure towarde Wasten, bends his course thither. It is a world to see what numbers of men came vnto the Duke from all parts proffering their seruice to him: All which hee gently welcomed. Some he entertained, and the rest sent home againe with speciall charge to looke vnto the Kings peace, signifying further that the cause why hee was now by in Armes, was but to right him selfe of such wronges done by those Lords, who neither loued the King nor him. The Lords that were in the Castle of Wasten vnderstanding of the Dukes approach with such a power of men, sodenly forsake the castle, and not being able to defend it, fled in all hast to Poland, whome the Duke would not pursue, but taking the castle put in a strong Garrison, and presently hast. d to the castle of Calmer, which Hartourbelk had a little before taken in the Kings name, who standing at defence and defiance with him, the Duke besiegeth both the Citie and castle, the citizens more willing to entertaine him, then resist him. The Duke plants his ordnance against the Gates of the Citie, and thereupon the Citizens resisting the command of Hartour Belk, open the citie Gates and recaue him in: The Duke besiegeth the castle, and in short time by the helpe of the Towne Winnes it, takes and keepes Hartour Belk prisoner, and dischargeth all the rest.

From hence the Duke sent letters to the King, informing truly the cause of these troubles, That the vniust attempts of the Commissioners, against him, did moue him to raise these

of Swethland.

these powers in defence of his state and liberty, not in the disturbance of his Maiesties peace, nor to make any innovation in the Land, & beseeching him that no false or fained suggestions of his aduersaries might stand as a barre betwixt his Maiesties grace towards him and his owne fidelitie: Affirming further that it lay in his power to stopp their passage into Poland, and that hee would at the Kings pleasure disperse his forces, surrender by the castles, that he had taken, be content to resigne his charge of gouernment, to whosoever it pleased the King, Provided that hee might bee assured of the quiet enioyment and peaceable possession of such Lands and honours, as he was born vnto by nature: and this (quoth he) I learne of necessity, which teacheth every creature to defend it selfe.

The King receiues the Dukes letters, but giues no credit to his protestations. During the time of the Dukes stay in the City of Calmer, and vnderstanding of many disorders, and misdemeanors that were committed in a Nunnery, standing in the Towne, One daye Came to visit the Nuns, accompanied with certaine gentlemen of his house, and vnderstanding some of their mindes to be discontent with their orders, and some of their bodies well knowne to the Friers, dissolues the Nunnery, and transposeth the Nunnes, according to their own disposing, Some into other nunneries, many to their Friends, the most to Mariages. The King by this time had answered the Dukes letters very colorably, that hee was sorry for the sarres that happened betweene him, and the Lords, That as soone as his businesse would giue him leage, he would visit the Lordes, and him. In the meane time he requested that hee would deliuer Hartourbelk, or intreat him kindly. The Duke though hee beleued not what the King had written, yet hee receaues the letters gladly, and honourably feasted the messenger. In this time another dangerous plot was laide, to entrappe Duke Charles, and to enforce him Prisoner, in the Castle of Litto alozelsaid, whereupon there were forces very secretly, and

D 2

sodainely

The VVarres

sodainely raised in Finland, The king hauing a purpose to
winne to that powre, other forces that he meant himselfe to
bring out of Poland, and appointed a day of meeting in
Stock-holland.

CHAP. V.

The Duke hath intelligence of the plots that the
King and his aduersaries had deuised against him.
He encounters part of the Kings army, and dis-
comforts them, with other accidents.



The Duke hauing intelligence of this dan-
gerous plot, deuised against him by the
king, assured himselfe to finde no fauour
at his hand & that no submission would serue
to turne: For him to disperse his powers,
and to stand rather vpon the protestation
of his allegiance then his guard, were to put his neck vpon
the block, and to indure the stroke: for raging strames are
not stayed with gentle hands. Wherefore calling his friends
about him, hee told them that it was now no time to dally.
That the king by his aduersaries was so prouokt against
him, that nothing but his death or depriuation would satisfie
the kings displeasure. These vnwilling armies (quoth hee)
that I now beare, are for the defence of you, and my Coun-
try, vnto which I owe my life, and wha soeuer else is deere
vnto mee. I see (quoth hee) the dyslike of the king, and my
aduersaries, is to ouerthrow our customes, and to gouerne
you according to the Polish Pollicy, which is unfit for any
freestate. To pursue this, and to lay heauy yokes vpon your
necks, my life is sought after, which I shall bee alwaies rea-
dy to spend or end to doe you or my Country service.

His friends embrac't him, willed him to go forward, pro-
mised their aide, to the uttermost of their powers, and the
Duke

of Swethland.

Duke lets slip no time, but presently seizeth vpon the Navy of Swethland, hauing it before vnder his command, maruelling much that the King had not before that sent to seize vpon it himselfe, but thereby belike hee thought hee should haue ministered matter for the Duke to suspect his deuice, The Finland Fleete being vpon the Coast some few dates before the day appointed, the Duke hauing furnished the Navy with men and munition, took the Opportunitie of Time, and with all expedition made hast to meete them before their ioyning with the Kings power, with whome had they met, they had put the Duke to a great hazard, The Finland Fleet consisted of thre score and ten saile most of them vessels of great burthen, and in them 14 thousand fighting men, the Dukes forces by Sea were scarce so many. The Duke diuides his Navy into two parts, the Smaller into thre. The Duke bearing as great a breadth in the front of his Navy, as his aduersaries did, doubting least he should be engirt. The charge being giuen by the Duke was semblably answered by the contrary party, and now the voice of the Ordinance, (that was many yeares a stranger in those parts) carried such hideous noyse in the Land, as much amazed the quiet mindes of the inhabitants, when they heard that the harvest of their peace was now like to be reap't by the vngentle hand of warre: Then began they to forgethink the troubles that were like to follow these fearful beginnings, but happely not to remember the causes thereof: it is either a naturall or Customary stupidity in man to be senselesse in the vnderstanding of their owne offences, Pride, Blasphemy, Avarice, Extortion, Luxury, and other the like enormities are in particular men the generall causes of the disturbance, nay sometimes of the depopulation of a whole kingdome, when the mindes of Princes corrupted with Ambition are stir'd vp, though in their owne respects, euen by the power and sufferance of the almighty to plague (by warre his consuming Minister) the vnrepented finnes of the people. But to returne to Sea, where the fight conti-

The Warres

rued little more then two howers, during which time the ayre was so troubled with smoake, that the Shippes at Sea could not see one another, and the beholders at land might iudge by the eye, that they were turn'd into a clowde. But at last the Admirall of the Finlanders being struck between winde and water, did sinke in the midst of them all: Their flēte began to take about to hoise by their Sayles and sye, the Duke followed them as far as he durst, but being doubtfull of the Kings appoach, made his returne the sooner, Landed his powers, and hastened with his army to Stockhol-land.

Upon his comming to Stock-holland hee understood of the Kings landing at Calmer Castle, his whole Pany consisting of a hundredeth Sayle, or there abouts, whereof there were eight and twentie English Shippes, which the King had hired of the Marchants being then resident in that coast bearing in the whole flēte eight and twenty thousand fighting men: Duke Charles being aduertised of the newes, doubted what hee were best to doe, Sometimes hee was in minde to giue place vnto his aduersaries, considering the miseries that were like to attend this vnciuill warre, And though hee knew himselfe well lyned with friends, in the kingdome, and that it might be in his power to resist the king, yet when he reduced into his mind the Calamities that might happen vnto the Land by the maintenance of this warre, He did often perswade himselfe with Ocho, rather to giue place to Vitellius, then to resist a Tyrant to the overthrow of his Countrey, but being otherwise aduised by his friendes, that counselled him either to take vpon him the soveraigntie, or at least to maintaine himselfe in his place, as well for their liues as his owne, hauing all gone so farre that they could not retyre without irrenocable danger, His courage ouercomming his feare, and the respect of the generallity aboue his own particular, he resolved to prosecute the war but yet in such manner, that al the worlde might understand hee did it rather to defend himselfe then offend the king. how-
soever

of Swethland.

loener his actes might be mistaken. Whereupon the duke remoues from Stock-holand into the hart of þ country to a hold called the castle of Lynnekeeping. By the way the King had taken the castle of Calmer, and detained the Capitaine of the castle (placed there by the Duke) close prisoner. And though the Town was surely guarded by the King, and allwaies by him sozelayd, to intercept all newes, yet a certaine Colonelman undertooke to carry the Duke intelligence therof, with the consent of the principall in the Town, such was the loue they bare vnto him. The Messenger because he could not passe the ports was let downe at a priue, toying to the Colone Walle, and hauing past the kings Scout-watch, that lay in diuers places houering about the Town, tooke so circumspectly the aduantage of the time, & in two daies he recovered the Dukes Army being vpon march, to the castle of Linnekeeping, The tenor of his message was, that on no conditions hee should trust the King, for that as well by the vslage of his officers in the castle of Calmer, as other principall intelligence giuen to some (that loued the Duke so well to keepe it close) that the king purposed his vtter destruction, and that there was no agrément to be made but onely conlozable (vpon any reconcilement) to sozegoe a further mischiese. The Duke though sad to heare these newes, yet embraced, and rewarded the messenger. And vnderstanding there of the kings remouue from Calmer to the castle of Sterborrow to his sister Freking Anne, he bends all his forces thither, and within three daies after came within sight of the castle: he pitcht his Tent within a myle of the Towne, befoze hee attempted any thing in any hostile maner, sent some of his principall friends vnto the king, and humbly desired him to know the cause of these vniust warres undertaken: If the fault lay iustly in the Duke or any of his adherents, they were content either to submit their liues to the law, or to the kings mercy, If any fault were supposed, or but suggested, they desired an indifferent Judge: And if the fault were found (where in deede it lay) they

The VVarres

they desired the same vpon their aduersaries. Finally he besought his Maiesty that he would measure the nature of all tongues, not by their sound but by their quality, for there were some about him, that neither loved him, nor them, nor y land. The king receiued these messages, gaue faire but dissembled words, that if he would disperse his Army he would discharge his. Confirm vnto him his place of gouernment, and other offices he enioyed in the kingdome, provided that Hartourbelk whom he detained as a prisoner, might be deliuered, and he with the rest of the Lords reconciled. The Duke answered to the first, that if it would please his Maiesty to disperse his Army, hee would doe the like, and for the other vpon due consideration he should find him conformable. Twelve daies were thus spent in messages interchangeably between them. The Duke meaning faithfully, the King otherwise. Both their Armies they still retaynd during which time, the trapp was laid to intrappe the Duke. That vpon an interuiew betwixt them in the sight of both their Armies Feinbecke Duke of Leif-lande should rush in, and vpon the sodaine surprise the Duke, take him prisoner, and carry him to the Castle aforesaid. But missing of his purpose being thoroughly countrecharged by the Duke, his minde was much perplexed in the vncertaine event of his expectations. His cogitations fought within themselves, when sometimes hee would lay the fault vpon such, as hee employed in those businesses, Sometimes he would place one, sometimes displace another. In his owne iudgement thinking such a man fit to bee a Commander and sometimes another: Hee would like one to daye, and to morrow utterly dislike him. To submit hee thought dishonorable, and worse then death, for by open disgraces, the fame of men growes odious. In this conflict of minde, the King retires with the Duke Feinbecke to Steckorow, knowing that the fortune of warre had not so done her worst, but that she might beginne a new Tragedy, and the rather for that his strength was weakened in the former assaults, hauing lost two thousand of his men in the same

of Swethland.

same : The Duke returning to the Leager, and resting there that night.

The next day the same had no sooner slept from the bed of Aurora, but the Dukes Fleet remoues from Finland to Stock-borow, being distant an hundred leagues. The Kings fleet lies in a haven betwene two rocks. Duke Charles his fleet lying in the Bayne, and the King perceiving how he was charged by Sea and Land began to be diuersly disraughted, sometimes hee resolves to undergoe a meane estate, alleging that *mediū est utiūque*, and *Antica vita, splendida uisera*. Cares are the Continuall Companions of a Crowne, when rest remaines in a lowe condition and fortune. How shrubs feele least tempest, In valleys is heard least thunder. In Countrey rooms is great rest, and in little wealth the least disquiet. Dignitie treadeth vpon glasse, and honor is like a fading herbe, that when it bloometh most gorgeous then it blisseth. Sometimes hee thought to disguise himselfe & with his cloathes to change his thoughts, that being poorly attyrd, hee might bee mearely minded, and measure his actions by the present fortune, not by his former estate. Yet in the summons of these diuers thoughts and cogitations, hee had some respectiue regard of his honour, though all false, yet his heart shoul not faint, for the courage of a man is shewd in his resolution. In the midst of his extreames hee held it his safest course, to slye by night with all his power, & sister, and friends, with a full purpose to attempt the winning of Wallen Castle, being thre or foure daies iourney from Stockborow. But the Duke that had waded through many dangers, and in many adventures both prosperous and lucky, had gotten such reputation, that he was highly preferred in the estimation of that Countrey put the King into such a Continuall feare of his pursuite knowing his strength vnable to match his Enemy.

The Duke understanding the King to be vnswayed in his resolution, end to stand thus wauering betwene warre and peace (which danted the hearts of his people to bee scene in

The Warres

field, leades his Army, plants his ordnance against the Ca-
stle of Steckborow and takes the kings fleet with seven
tunne of Gold, and all his regall Ornaments. The King
had commaid himselfe to the Castle of Linnekeeping, and
was there royally entertained, howbeit in the midst of
Solemnities, the sad newes of that unhappy accident was
brought thither vnto him: At the hearing & relation wher-
of, though hee was much agast, yet with that kingly cou-
rage that his vnfortunate successe had left him, he burst out
into this or the like passion. If my moderation (quoth hee)
,, in prosperity had bene answerable to the greatnesse of my
,, birth, and state, or the successe of my last attempts to the re-
,, solation of my minde, I might haue come to Linnekee-
,, ping, in my accustomed honour, and Royalty, and not as a
,, man thus wasted and spoiled, and to be rather gazed vpon,
,, then honourably entertained. But what cloud sooner hath
,, darkned my present state, yet haue the heauens, and nature
,, giuen me that in birth & mind, which none can vanquish
,, or deprive me of. I see that my enemies make their tri-
,, umphs, the subject of my miseries, and in my calamity as
,, in a mymour may bee beheld their owne gloze: yet let them
,, know this, that I am, and was a prince, furnished
,, with strength of men, and abillments of warre, and what
maruell is it, if it be my chance to loose, seeing experience tea-
,, cheth, that the events of warre are variable, and the suc-
,, cesse of policy guided by vncertaine fates: The desire of
,, souerainty admits no limitation, and if Duke Charles
,, must command all, then all must obey. For mine owne part
,, whilst I am able, I will make resistance, and will bee vn-
,, willing to submit my neck to a seruite yoke: For so farre
,, the law of nature alloweth euery man to defend himselfe,
,, and to withstand force by force. This passion of the King
filled the peoples hearts and eyes with wonder, and delight,
and with their best comfort and encouragement they promi-
sed their loynt performances of duty. Insomuch as the King
did therewith attempt the taking of Wasten Castle. But
hee

of Swethland.

hee whom fortune had befoze strived to make vnsfortunate did in this also faile, and hath nothing left him to glozy in that attempt, but his losse of men, and of much expectation. These crosse accidents sat neer the Kings heart, who with much cares and travells had wearied his spirits, and greatly spent the strength both of himselfe, and his people. For whatsoeuer hee determined, was not carried with any such secret or politike course, but that by some meanes or other the Duke had some notice thereof, and still apprehended his designs. For this was no sooner plotted, but the Duke sends letters secretly to the Captain, that he should not deliuer the Castle with his p'suit.

The King lying in Linnekeeping sends five hundred men secretly to surprize the Castle, yet was the same able to defend it selfe as indeed it did, and the Captain therein performed the Dukes will, and retainde his credit, without impeaches of his valor. Questionnēt were made whether they might enter into the Castle in the kings name, but a peremptory answer was returned, that without mandatory letters from the Duke, there was nothing there to be expected but resistance: vpon this the kings mind was disquieted, and a world of inward Conflictes encountered his cogitations, as he stood doubtfully distract, what he were best to doe: at last as fire cannot be bid in straw, nor the nature of man to concealed, but that at last it will breake out, and haue his course: Soe sares it with the king, who perceiving his pleasure to be like Dicke-mens wills that are parall (which hauing no hand nor seale, are the lawes of a Citie written in dust, and are broken with the blast of euery wind) commanded that forthwith the Duke and all his adherents, should be proclaimed to stand in the state and nature of Traitors.

The VVarres

CHAP. VI.

The Kings Armie, and the Dukes ioyne: Many on the Kings side flaine, and taken prisoners.



It was not long before this newes of the Kings proceedings, in this manner against the Duke was made knowne unto him: at which the Duke beganne to put on a furlous countenance, able to amaze any that made attempts against him, and looking like Hercules when hee aduante himselfe against Achelaus, he followes the King to Linne keeping with all his power: And in a misty morning the morrow before Michaellmas day, ryle early, calles his souldiours together, deuotes his Army (consisting of fiftene thousand men) into three severall bodies. One Iames Hill an English man had the leading of the first. Captaine Scot being his Lieutenant, Andreas Lemelston Leades the second the Duke himselfe with the third, takes a wood within a mile of the Kings lodging: Here might you see these three, shine like three meteors in the firmament, all in scale, their Courtes were camps and none Courriers, but souldiours. Such effect did the fier of discention worke in the hearts of these Enemies. Fortune turned the wheele of the Swerchen and Polish state with unsteady hand, and had now almost brought it to the point she meant they should sit: she tooke her fauours from them: Or rather, to speake of a power that controules fortune, and whose very finger throwes downe kingdomes to utter confusion, or holdes them vp in their greatnes, whether the generall sinnes of the people deserved this, or whether the people were punished for the particular faults of the Princes, or for what other causes soeuer, the rodd of vengeance was laide vpon these Nations,

of Swethland.

It is in man to thinke upon, and feare, but not to examine. Yet sure it is, that as fire catching hold at first but of some meane cottage in some end or corner of a City, hath oftentimes (ere the fury of it could bee put out) swallowed up in his flames the goodliest and most beautifull buildings, that stood euen farthest out of reach: So did the Clouds of discension burst open their vaines, and let fall the poison of them on these severall kingdomes.

In the expedition of these warres, one Lucas Righter undertakes to performe the Dukes pleasure in the proclamation of his intended proceedings unto the Kings Army, (which consisted of foure and twenty thousand men). The tenor of the Dukes proclamation made knowne his greivances which although it be not answered to expectation, Yet Lucas Righter making his returne, is royally rewarded by the Duke, and appointed that day to attend the Dukes person. The next day following the mist breakes up, and Armies discover one another, A ryuer being betwixt the King and the Duke, eight thousand of the Kings Soldiers were appointed to make good the bridge. Captaine Scot full of Courage and valour, giues the Charge, but receaues the overthrow: the like successe had Captaine Hill. Andreas Lemerson seconds them, and bides the Shock.

The Duke perceiving this, issues out of the wood alone hartena his Soldiers. fills his ordnance (wanting shot) with pibble stones, and makes choice to encampe himselfe and his host, euen on the top of a hill naturally defended from passage and if any were, those bee stopp'd up with heapes of stones in manner of a Rampier: neare the foote whereof ranne a River, with an uncertaine forde where a troop of his best Soldiers were set on order to receaue the Enemy, and the more to animate the mindes of his men, the leaders went about exhorting, and encouraging the Soldiers, taking all occasion of feare from them, and putting them in hope with all inducements of warre. And the Duke himselfe couling

The VVarres

hither and thither, protested that that day should bee the full end of their misfortunes, and the beginning of their happinesse, or else his owne perpetuall seruitude and bondage. The Souldiers vpon this shewde as great forwardnesse, and as Echoes redoubled his wordes, vowing neuer to yeeld, eyther for woundes or for life, which they were all ready to sacrifice in the cause of their Country: which resolution appearde in the Squadron of Captaine Hill, who leading his Army, mette the Enemy with such a shewe of shot, that many were slaine, and many wounded: Andreas Lemerson giues the second charge, and that with so fierce an encounter, that he seizeth vpon the enemies ordnance, and turnes the same vpon them. In this conflict the Kinges Army is discomfited, eight thousand of them being slaine, drowned, and taken Prisoners. Vpon this sad successe, the King being in the Castle of Linne keeping calles a Parley. The Duke vpon knowledge of the Kings pleasure, is willing to entertaine it, Messengers are sent interchangeably, and vpon hearing and debating the grieuances one of another, the conditions are agreed vpon, the Duke to haue pardon for what was past, and whereas hee had one of his aduersaries already in his custody, it was likewise agreede, that he should haue the other. These deliuered into his hands, being the souldre Commissioners that disturbed the peace of Swethen, which was perfozmed accordingly, so as the Duke detaines them prisoners with their wives and children: After this friendly coherence, the Duke rides to the King with fiftene of his men, leauing charge notwithstanding with Lemerson, that if hee returned not, he sent word to the contrary within halfe an houre, hee should come to him with his whole Army. The King and the Duke doe so well concoyd and agree, as they dine together, and are feasted very royally: all matters are pacified on eyther side, so as a Rex-day is appointed, and it is determined that the King shall haue his owne, the Duke his,

of Swethland.

his, and the disturbers of the peace their due. The King returneth to Steckborow to his Flēte, the Duke to Carborowh where the Dutches lay. The Peace being thus concluded, the Duke dismisseth his Souldiers, and receiues Letters from the King, hat hee purposed to passe into his Country with a thousand men, and desires prouision for them: The Duke receiues his message very kindly, and returnes this answer to the King, that if it pleased him, hee should finde prouision for two thousand. As this prouision was preparing, Fernsbecke Duke of Liefland perswades the King to returne with his power to Poland, and not to stand to the Articles of agreement, but to renew the warre, alleadging that he could neuer be absolute King of Swethen, so long as M. Charles liued: And this was the onely ground of the Ciuill warre that followed.

CHAP. VII.

The King returnes to Poland, Duke Charles renues the warre against the King his Nephew, winnes the City and Castle of Calmer, and setleth the state of the Dukedome of Finland.



The King hauing thus falsified his owne promise, and deceived the Dukes expectation, returned with all expedition into Poland, landing at Danske with his Army, leauing the Castle of Calmer and certaine other holds adtoyning, strongly manned and victualled for a yeare: Duke Charles being much discontented with this unkingly breach of his Nephewes promise, knew now that it was no time to capitulate, and that no sollicitation, nor any submission meanes would serue to appease the Kings anger, and to reintegrate himselfe into his lost and good opinion, called his
chiefe

The VVarres

chiese friends about him, to haue their aduise what was best to be done in this weighty businesse: They all agræde that if it were possible they should reconer the Castle of Calmer that winter, and certaine other holds lately manred and victualed by the King: whereupon the Duke with his Army marcheth to Greenekeeping, a little City in Swehland, where hauing certaine dayes rested and refreshed his Army, he hastned to besiege the Castle of Calmer. The City being indefensible, yeelded vnto him at his first approach: The Duke hauing made his entrance into the City, deliuered sayre speeches to the Citizens, the iust cause that was giuen him to renue the warre, and that no ambitious desire or turbulent spirit of his owne, drew him so violently to these actions of hostilitie, but that he was full Master of his owne affections, and the necessity of the time in the Kings incensed hate against him, did moue him to these Armes, that being (quoth he) at the first but priuate betwixt him and the three Dukes his aduersaries, that alwayes maligned his estate, might very well without the generall disturbance of both Kingdomes, haue been ended long agoe, and neither hee heide guilty, nor the land defiled with the shedding so much Polish and Swehish blood, But sith the King had so unkindly taken part with strangers against a kinsman, and had so vn-naturally laid their treacherous plots against his loyalty, nature and iustice were the faire protectors of his quarrells, that should defend the equity of his cause against the mouth of calny, or any such calumnious tongues whatsoeuer.

The Citizens that alwayes affect peace rather then war, looking into the condition of the disturbed States, were much perplexed in mind, and seuerally distracted in their opinions, being vncertaine how to stand affected: They knew that the right and title was in the King, but the power and authority in the Duke: The King had the command of the Castle, the Duke the possession of the City. Their feare exceeded their distrust, for both the Dukes Army that lay in the City committed many outrages, notwithstanding the Dukes

Grief

of Swethland.

strict Proclamation, and againe the ordinance of the Castle augmented their feare, and if Hergusten Boner that commaunded the Castle had had his will, the Ordinance had bene bent against the Towne. The Duke satisfying aswell as he could the feare of the Citizens, beleaguers the Castle of Calmer, there being a great mutiny within the Castle betwixt the Poles and the Swethians, which served excellently well for the Duke, for Hergusten Boner that commaunded the Castle under the King, agreede with the Poles to haue battered the City, which the Swethian Souldiers resisted, insomuch that from wordes they fell to blowes, in which conflict the Swethens having the better, tooke Hergusten Boner Prisoner, together with all the Poles, being to the number of thye hundzeth, and knowing this Act to bee unanswerable to the King, submitted themselves, yielded the Castle, and gave up their Prisoners to Duke Charles. The Duke gently entertaines al but Hergusten Boner (his old enemy) whome hee sent Prisoner to Greephollam, where hee remaines to this day. All the Poles hee sent new apparrelled with white haies in their hands, fairely entreated, to the King. The Duke having thus fortunately recovered the City, and Castle of Calmer, did strongly wanne them both, and comforting the Citizens in the best manner he could, with the rest of his Army marched into the Dukedome of Finland, it being a part of Swethland, bordering upon Russia, and there beleaguered the Castle of Oua, and in few dayes wanne it, still fairely entreating the Kings Souldiers, which in all places wanne him great commendations, & having in short time quieted the Dukedome returned backe with his Army to Stockehollam, where he rested the remainder of that winter.

The Warres

CHAP. VIII

Duke *Charles* inuades the Dukedome of *Liefland*, surpriseth most of the Townes and Castles of that country, and is in a manner absolute possessor of the whole Dukedome.

Duke Charles knowing his principall aduersary with the King to bee *Fernesbeck*, Duke of *Liefland*, (which countrey notwithstanding it ioyneeth with *Swethland* in law and language, had neuer the lesse a kind of absolute power and authoritie within it selfe) thought it best to beginne the warre in that countrey, that the eye of his aduersaries looking into his actions there, the Kings forces might not be bent against his owne countrey, the peace whereof hee much desired, and to this end in the beginning of the Sommer following, hauing reinforced his Army, Marched into the dukedome of *Liefland*, The chiefe Citie whereof called *Ragell* yelded vnto him, into the which he triumphantly entered, The Cittizens themselves, whether for feare of his power, or loue of his person, shewed such tokens of submissiue dutie, that there little lefted a Contestation of their allegiance. Hauing there rested certaine daies he rayseth his Army and marcheth towards the Castle of *Whettensten*, which in short time was yelded vnto him. From thence he came to the City of *Perno*, which he likewise toke in, placing there a strong garrison. He marched from thence to another strong Citie called *Durpe*, and in fye daies forced the Towne: fye hundred Polish Souldiours within the Towne submitted vnto him with tender of their seruice, whom he gently intreated, & entertained. They euer after seruing him in all his wars very faithfull. The *Lieflanders* themselves, noting the gentle behauiour of Duke Charles wisht in their hearts all good successe vnto him, though they durst not shew it outwardly, for
feare

of Swethland.

feare of their Lordes displeasure, who in his rule bare ever such a rough hand over them, that hee seemed a Tyrant or an vniust Usurper, rather then an honorable gouernour, or a naturall prince.

Duke Fernesbeck hauing some intelligence of the sodaine inuasion of his countrey, raiseth with all the hast hee could, all the powers hee could make, being constituted by the King, Generall of his warres, and within a few daies landed in Liefland, whereof Duke Charles hauing vnderstanding, and fearing to be prevented, sent very secretly and speedily fiftene hundred souldiours vnder the command of coronell Hill to surprize the citie of Venden, but (I know not how) the plot being discovered, and Ambuscadoes laide in the way by Fernesbeck, they were sodainly charged, and being weary and faint through a long marche, were soone ouerthrowne, and slaine, only the Coronell with seauenteene of his followers, the poore remaine of so many hundreds, making way with the sword, through the surp of the Enemy, did wondrously escape, bringing this sad newes backe to their Lord. The Duke, though it somewhat troubled him, yet shewed no signe either of feare or sorrow, but hartned on his souldiours to the reuenge of their fellowes deaths. There was nothing that aduantaged him more then his Celeritie in all his attempts, for whensoever any aduantage was proffered, hee woulde neuer pretermitt the least occasion. Duke Charles vpon the newes of this overthrow, vnderstanding of new succours shortly to come out of Poland in the aide of Fernesbeck sodainly raiseth his Army, his Enemies supposing that the late overthrow had much quaild his courage, and nothing lesse suspecting then what he intended, marcheth with all speed to the Citie of Venden, into which Duke Fernesbeck but two daies before had made his triumphant entrance. The march was so speedily and secretly made, that they of the Towne vnderstood not of his remouing from Durpe, till they saw him with his Army before the walls of Venden;

The VVarres

den, Ferns-beck staying within the Towne, every howser looking for his new supplies, when he saw himselfe (thus unlookt for) confronted by the Duke, and his Army, stood so amazed that a long time he was in doubt what it were best to doe. At last made a shew of resistance of the Enemy, and defence of the Towne, till the approach of the night following, In which time he deuised such a plot, that utterly lost his honoz, and the Loue of all his friends within his Dukedome. For in the beginning of the night hauing thoroughly instructed his Commanders, and followers, what hee meant to doe, No Townesman supposing what he purposed, made an absolute spoile of the Towne, ransacking every mans house, and carrying away their plate, money and Jewels, fleyes closely away and leaues the Towne abandoned. Duke Charles had sodaine intelligence hereof, and with all hast pursues him, and in the way he takes certaine of Fernesbeckes Espials, whome hauing threatened, was by them conducted to the place where Duke Fernbecke that night encamped, and hauing given the charge to Coronell Hill, that was desirous to reuenge himselfe of his late ouerthrow, sodainely set vpon them being at rest, slew the most part of them, recouers the goods taken a little before so violently and dishonourably out of the City, Fernesbecke himselfe with a few of his followers hardly escaping.

Duke Charles hauing thus recovered his late losse, returns with his Army to the Citie of Venden, where, with all acclamation of ioy hee was honozably entertained: Being thus seated in Venden, within two daies after his aboad in the Town he sendeth Eight hundred men vnder the conduct of one Peerflempe, a gallant Swethish Captaine, to surprise the Castle of Newhall bordering vpon Russia, which was by him fortunately atchieued, who returning to the Duke gave him presently the command of five thousand men, Coronell Hill being Steward of the feild. The proiecte was to besiege Cokenhouse, being then and at this day the strongest Castle in christendome. The duke thought

of Swethland.

If he could gaine this castle, he were then thoroughly posses-
sessed of all the dukedome, hee himselſe purposed shortly after
to second him. This gallant young gentleman with all
speed, and with a full spirit marcheth to this honorable ex-
ploit, and encampeth his Army close to the walles of the
Towne, which being very strong, & faithfull to their Lord,
endured a long siege with great effusion of blood on both
sides, but at the comming of the Duke, the Towne was ta-
ken, and upon a breach in the entrance of the Towne, this
young captaine was unfortunately (but honorably) slaine
with the shot of a Musket in his privities, sent from the ca-
stle: Duke Charles was very sorry for his death, making
a vow that he would never raise his Army, till he had either
forced the castle, or followed the fortune of this gallant cap-
taine. Three moneths the Duke lay before the castle with
continuall batterie, and in the end takes it, and keepes it at
this day. Upon the taking of the castle he was sufficiently
renewed for the death of Peerefloppe. Thus all the ca-
stles, boulds, and fortresses, in Liefland, were in this Sum-
mer brought under the command of Duke Charles, onely
the castle of Ree, which was second to none but Coken-
house, was yet left unassaulted. Duke Charles having
thus in a manner the entier possession of Liefland, and be-
ing now wearied with this long toyle, hearing no newes of
Duke Fernesbeckes returne, in the latter end of the Sum-
mer, having ordered his affaires in that countrey returned to
his dutchesse into Swethland, lying then in Stock holland,
before his going he left the cities & castles in the dukedome,
being thoroughly maned, under the government of his friends.
The rest of his Army rested under the command of Coro-
nell Hill, who having directions from the Duke at his de-
parture, to attempt the taking of the Towne of Ree, toge-
ther with the castle, set forward with hope and courage,
while the Duke was upon his journey into Swethland,
and encamped before the Towne of Ree, burnt the sub-
urben, assaulted the Towne, battered the walles, &c. But
finding it stronger manned, then either it was supposed, or

The VVarres

stood at that time with his power to force, returned according to his directions to the Duke.

CHAP. IX.

Duke Charles winters in *Swethland*: takes order for the renewing of the warre: The Sommer following is fought withall in *Liesland* by Duke *Fernesbeck*, and discomfited: His strange escape, and recovery of *Swethland*.



Like Charles made his abode with his Dutches the Winter following in *Swethland*, hauing still prync intelligence from Poland of the Kings plotts, & proceedings. That Winter nothing was attempted, but in the prime of the Spring following *Fernesbeck* returned to *Liesland* with foue thousand men. A greater power beeing appointed shortly to second him. Upon his landing he marched to the Towne and Castle of *Ree*, where he reposed himselfe to vnderstand what Duke Charles intended to doe: Dante blamed the Duke for that hee let slip the taking in of the Castle, which if it had bene, *Fernesbeck* had had no place to haue respyred to in all his Kingdome. But it is an easier matter for a man to Censure then to act: wordes are soone spoken, so are not deeds performed, for Coronel Hill Attempted with the remainder of his army, to do what was possible to be done, but the winter being at hand, which in that coast is very extream, his men wearied and weakened with a long sommers toyle, every mans naturall desire in this Country to rest themselves in their stoves, the winter season tooke away al possibility of turning the Castle Duke Charles vnderstanding of his Enemies arrivall at *Ree*, let slip no time, but suddenly raised his powers to the number of fiftene thousand men, tooke shipping at *Stock-holland* and landed with his whole

of Swethland.

whole Army safely within two daies, within 15. myles of Ree. His purpose was to haue sodainely beleaguere the Castle before the rest of his enemies forces were Landed out of Poland, which he vnderstood were ready to bee shipped: and to that end (hauing refreshed his Army) hee marched speedily and out of order, in the latter end of the day towards the Castle of Ree, supposing by the benefit of the night following, the better to haue ensconced and fortified himselfe. But as no man, though neuer so circumspect, can warrant to himselfe the assurance or continuance of successe, and especially in the actions of warre, where fortune bears a sway: so this noble Duke found the nature of her fauours, which shee had powred vpon him, to be so vnstable, that in a Minute she snatcht from him, what a long time before she had prodigally bestowed. For Fernsbeck hauing intelligence of the Dukes landing, sodenly issued out of the Castle with three thousand of his followers, and hauing a place of great advantage about three myles from the Castle, the way that Duke Charles must of necessity passe, tooke the benefit of the place and the night, lying there in Ambush for the Dukes coming, and giuing directions not to stirre till the vanguard of the Dukes Army had past them, and then sodenly to charge the battaile, and the Rereward to giue the Alarm to the Castle, At which time a Polish Captaine with three thousand Poles was appointed to charge the vanguard of the Dukes: which on all sides was accordingly accomplished. The Duke being in the Battaille, finding himselfe so sodainely and dangerously inuiron'd, gaue (according to the Tyme) the best directions, resist hee must of necessity, Retire hee could not, wherfore yding cheerefully by & downe his Army gaue encouragement to his Souldiours, making still the danger lesse then it was, But Fernsbeck stirred vp with a desire of reuenge, and recovery of his dukedome, and hauing aduantage of the place, so violently assailed, that at the first Charge he made a great breach into the body of the Dukes battaile, the like was performed at the instant vpon the rereward by one Stockland, a gallant young Polish Captaine.

The Warres

Thus all parts of the Army beeing assaulted, that before was weary, weake, and fainte, through a long Marche, they were suddenly put into such a fear, as begat much amazement in them, so as men desperate of all hope to resist, they slong away their weapons and fled, hoping to save themselves that way, wherein was least hope of safeguard. The Duke did what lay in his power to stay his flying Souldiers. But in this perplexed face of flight, where nothing but the Characters of feare and despaire could be seene, no words could suffice, nor any commanders tongue be regarded, but in this confused manner they ran upon their deaths, whilst the enemy stood ready to receave them. And in this horrour of blood and massacre, the Dukes horse was slain under him, he himselfe hurt, and perceining no hope either by fight or flight, he fell downe (as dead) among the dead Carcasses, reteyning a hope that way happely to save himselfe. Of fifteene thousand men, fourteen thousand and odde were put to the sword, the rest fled to their shippes. Every man supposing the Duke to be slaine. The sad newes of this fatall overthrow and of the Dukes supposed death, was soone brought into Swethland, which upon the hearing thereof, shewed such a general face of sorrow, as if the whole land had put on one entire mourning garment, to attend his sad and untimely funerals. They now saw their Prince suddenly snatcht from them in the spring time of their hopes, & in the prime of all his glory, they found themselves naked, and open to the Polish Tyranny. They feared their Religion and government would now be forced and adulterated by the tyrannous command, and superstitious customes of Poland, where withall they knew their King was wholly corrupted. No heart so noble, no head so circumspect, no hand so victorious, to order the state, manage the affaires, and fight the battalies of their Countrey. Now he was dead all hope was buried, and all their happines, and freedom should be laid in the grave with him, and last but not least of their sorrow, they wanted his body to give it honorable funerall.

But

of Swethland

But as this false newes made them true mourners, so this passion of sorrow for his supposed death, was afterward turned into the contrary passion of joy, for the Dukes strange and unknowne deliuerie: to whome wee will now returne, hauing left him before among the dead carcases of his Souldiers. There was a young Gentleman of Swethland, attendant to the Duke (whose name I could not learne) that saw the Duke when he fell, thinking him with the rest to haue beene slaine, and desirous to doe the last seruice to his Prince, kept close (hauing a place fitt for his purpose) hoping to recover the body of the Duke, and finding, in the darke of the night, a certain Gentleman of Poland, newly slaine, thisteth armour and apparrell with him, and hauing the Polish tongue, undertooke as one of Fernsbecks souldiers to rife the dead bodies, and hauing found the place where the Duke lay, all imbued with the blood of his Souldiers, and comming neere to raise the body, the Duke beganne to stirre: The Gentleman amased, asked in sayre termes if he were alieue: to whome the Duke replied, Art thou my friend? the Gentleman told him his name and purpose, and sith he was alieue, he should horse himselfe vpon the Gentlemans horse, and flee vnto his ships, vsing the benefite of the night for his escape, while hee himselfe would make what shift he could to follow after. The Duke being thus raysed from this graue of blood worse then Golgotha, embraced him, thankt him, and spake these words, God prosper thee, whome if it please, that thou shalt liue to out liue the fortunes of this night, there was neuer man so deare, as thou shalt be to thy Lord: whereupon the Duke mounted, and with all speed hastned to his shippes, where the joy of his comming was so much the greater, by how much the feare before of his death was the stronger.

The Gentleman whom hee left behind, being vniueksely discovered, was vnforsunately slaine, which though the last, was not the least honour hee atchieued, to die in the safeguard of his Prince. The Duke stayed long for his returne,

but

The Warres

but at length inspecting that which had happened, voyd safe and safely arrived in Swethland. It is a world to heare the concourse of people that from all parts came to see him: Upon the newes of his landing, they strewd flowers in the way, as thinking the Earth unworthy to beare him: they shewed all signes and tokens of joy, as now holding themselves free from those seares, which the report of his death had before possesst them with. Now as men newly recovered, they beganne to entertaine new hopes, and to flatter themselves with a perpetuall stability of their estates: The Sunne, which they supposed had made an eternall Set from their Horizon, did now shine againe in the midst of their Hemisphere, and this glad day, after their sad night, they made a generall vow for ever to consecrate. Thus as in a triumphant manner the Duke helde on his course, to Stockeholland, where the triumphes for his deliverance he found doubled, with the Dutches his wife, his kindred and his neerest friends, that in joy of his returne feasted many dayes together.

Duke Fernsbecke proud of the late victory, let slippe no time: but hauing the seconds of his power, safely landed out of Poland, recovered many of his towne and Castles which hee before had lost, and which he holdeth at this day. Duke Charles did little that Summer, but that hee sent certaine forces to strengthen those principall towne and castles in Leifland; which he yet holdeth. And in this Summer, not from any ambitious desire of his owne, but the policy of the time, in the state of the Kingdome, so requiring, at the speciall instigation of his friends, for the common good, but principally upon respect of the churches peace, hee tooke vpon him the Crowne and Scepter of Swethland, in the yeare of our Lord God, 1604. which hee doth still nowly and peaceably gouerne, as the state of the Time doth suffer. The wars being for the most part transferred into the Dukedome of Leifland. And thus as I am enformed, standeth the condition of the affaires of that Kingdome at this time.

